



# Forest Service -Integrated Restoration Strategy

Northern Region's Strategy to  
Protect and Restore Fire Adapted  
Landscapes and Watersheds



## Steps to Building a Restoration Strategy

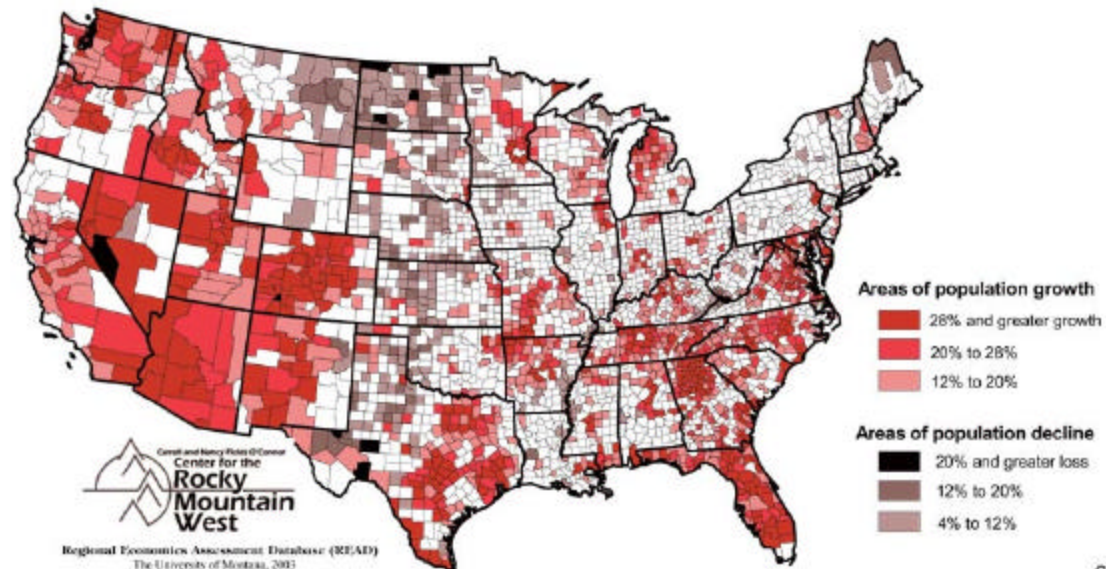
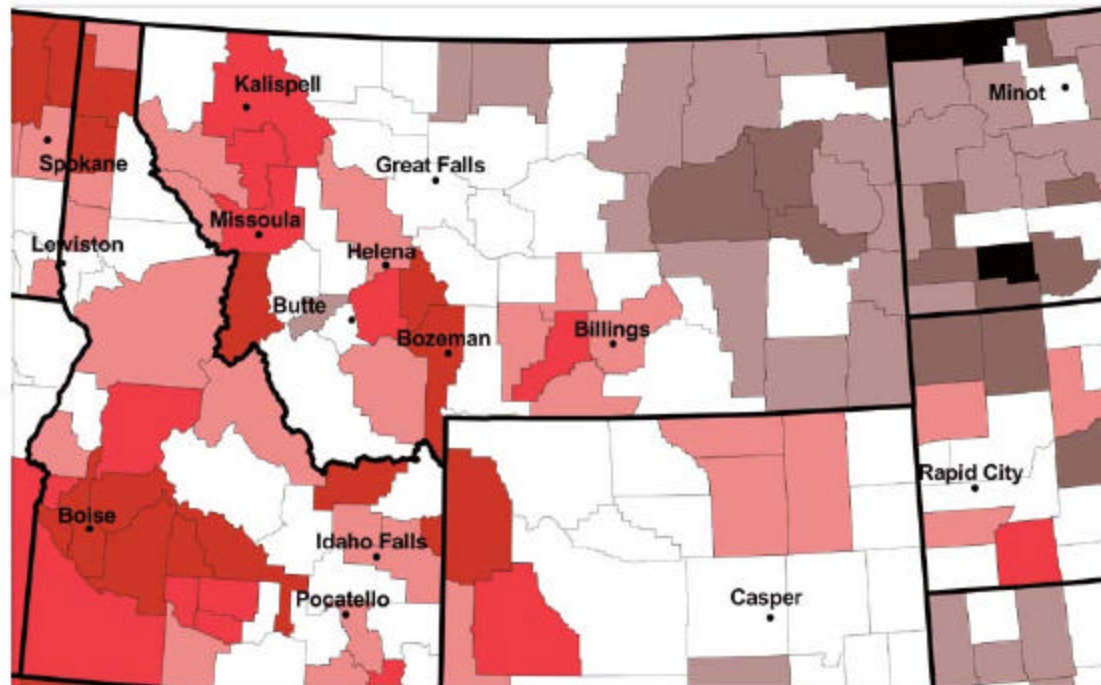
- Understand demographic changes
- Prioritize our fire adapted landscapes & watersheds
- Quantify restoration economic benefits to local communities

# Building a Restoration Strategy

- ◆ Understanding our changing Demographic and Economic Environment



Population  
**Growth**  
and  
**Decline**  
1990 – 2000





# ***The Simple Story...***

<u><b>Year</b></u>	<u><b>% over 65</b></u>
--------------------	-------------------------

<b>2000</b>	<b>13%</b>
-------------	------------

<b>2030</b>	<b>26%</b>
-------------	------------

# Top Two Visitor Activities

(minus shopping)

<b>Custer</b>	Visit Hist. Sites	<b>Watch Wildlife</b>
<b>Glacier</b>	<b>Watch Wildlife</b>	Day Hike
<b>Gold W.</b>	Visit Hist. Sites	<b>Watch Wildlife</b>
<b>Missouri</b>	Camping	<b>Watch Wildlife</b>
<b>Russell</b>	<b>Watch Wildlife</b>	Day Hike
<b>Yellowstone</b>	<b>Watch Wildlife</b>	Day Hike

# National Visitor Use for National Forests in Montana

## Lolo National Forests

	Number of Annual Visits	% Participation	Primary Activities
	1,250,000 yearly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hiking/Walking 40.4%</li><li>▪ Viewing natural features 3.1%</li><li>▪ Viewing wildlife/birds 28.5%</li><li>▪ Relaxing, escaping noise 22.5%</li><li>▪ Hunting all types 14.5%</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hunting all types 13.3%</li><li>▪ Non-motorize activities 8%</li><li>▪ Snowmobile 6.7%</li><li>▪ Relax, escape noise 6.5%</li><li>▪ Developed camping 5%</li></ul>

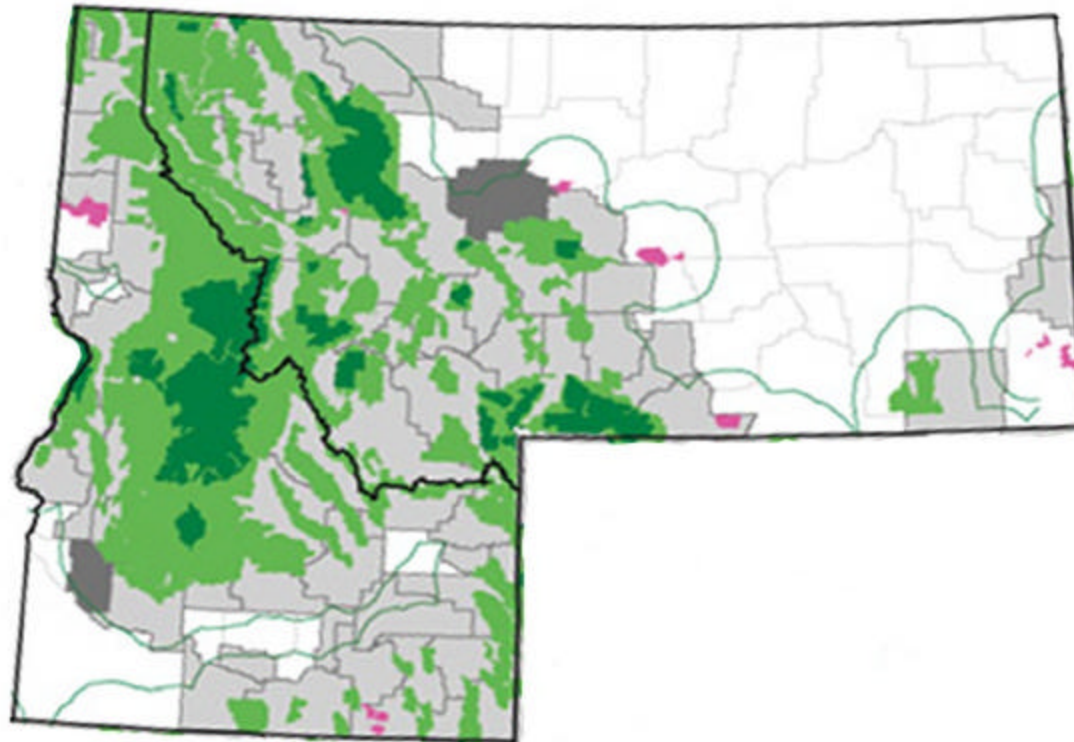
# National Visitor Use for National Forests in Montana

## Gallatin National Forest

Number of Annual Visits	% Participation	Primary Activities
1,980,548 visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ View natural features 71%</li><li>▪ View wildlife/birds/fish 60%</li><li>▪ Hiking/walking 58%</li><li>▪ Relaxing/escape noise 56%</li><li>▪ Drive for pleasure 21%</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Hiking/walking 29%</li><li>▪ Relax, esc. Noise 11%</li><li>▪ Hunting 9%</li></ul>
Source: Kocis et al. 2001-2003		



# Population Growth Near Public Lands

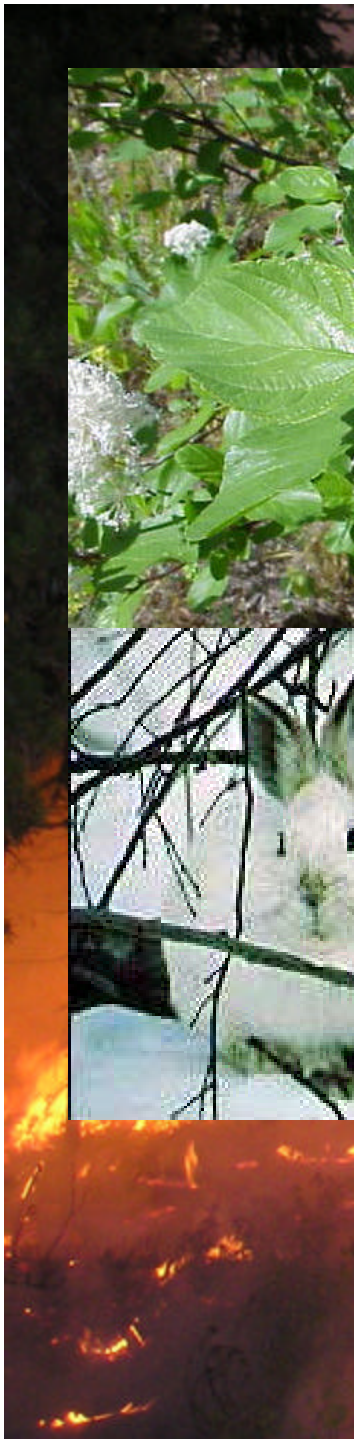


# Building a Restoration Strategy

- ◆ Translating public demand into a healthy and productive landscape




























**Imagine...**




# Putting the Pieces Together

- ◆ Restore and maintain high value **watersheds**
  - ◆ Restore and maintain **wildlife** habitats
  - ◆ **Protect** communities and developments
  - ◆ **Contribute** to local Economic diversity and stability
- 
- A stylized, dark teal silhouette of a mountain range is positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, partially overlapping the background.

# Risk Agents

- ◆ Drought
- ◆ Forest bark beetles
- ◆ Invasive plant and animal species
- ◆ Forest encroachment into grasslands
- ◆ Erosion and sedimentation, and toxic chemicals
- ◆ Dense vegetation leading to catastrophic wildfire

# Values At Risk

- ◆ Community infra-structure
  - ◆ Wildlife habitat, including resilient vegetation conditions, especially elk winter range
  - ◆ Old growth forest
  - ◆ Fish habitat
  - ◆ Municipal watersheds
  - ◆ Recreation facilities
- 
- A stylized, layered mountain range graphic in shades of teal and blue, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

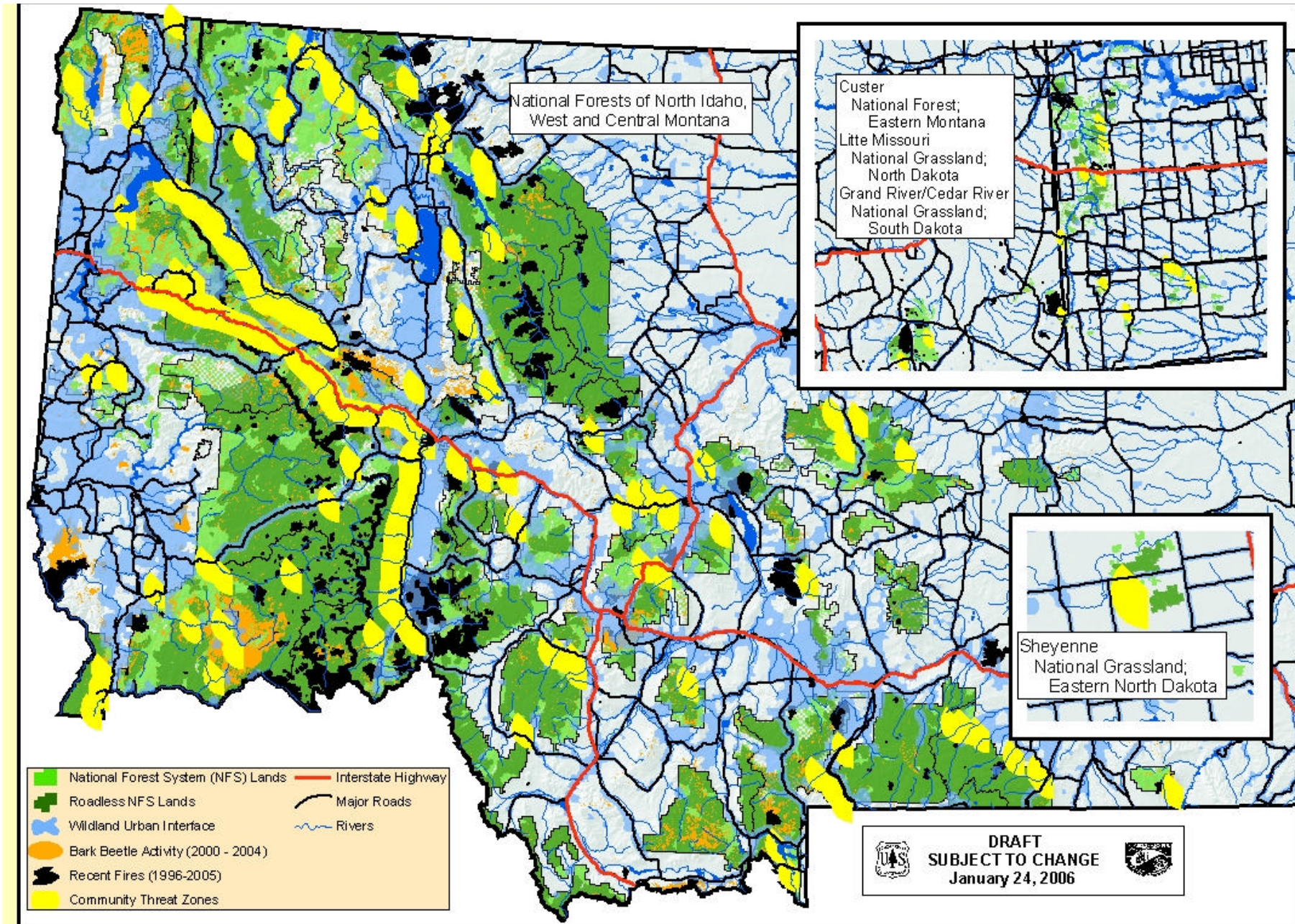
# Restoration Tools

- ◆ Road obliteration
- ◆ Wildland fire use
- ◆ Prescribed fire
- ◆ Mechanical treatments
- ◆ Culvert replacement
- ◆ Stewardship Contracting



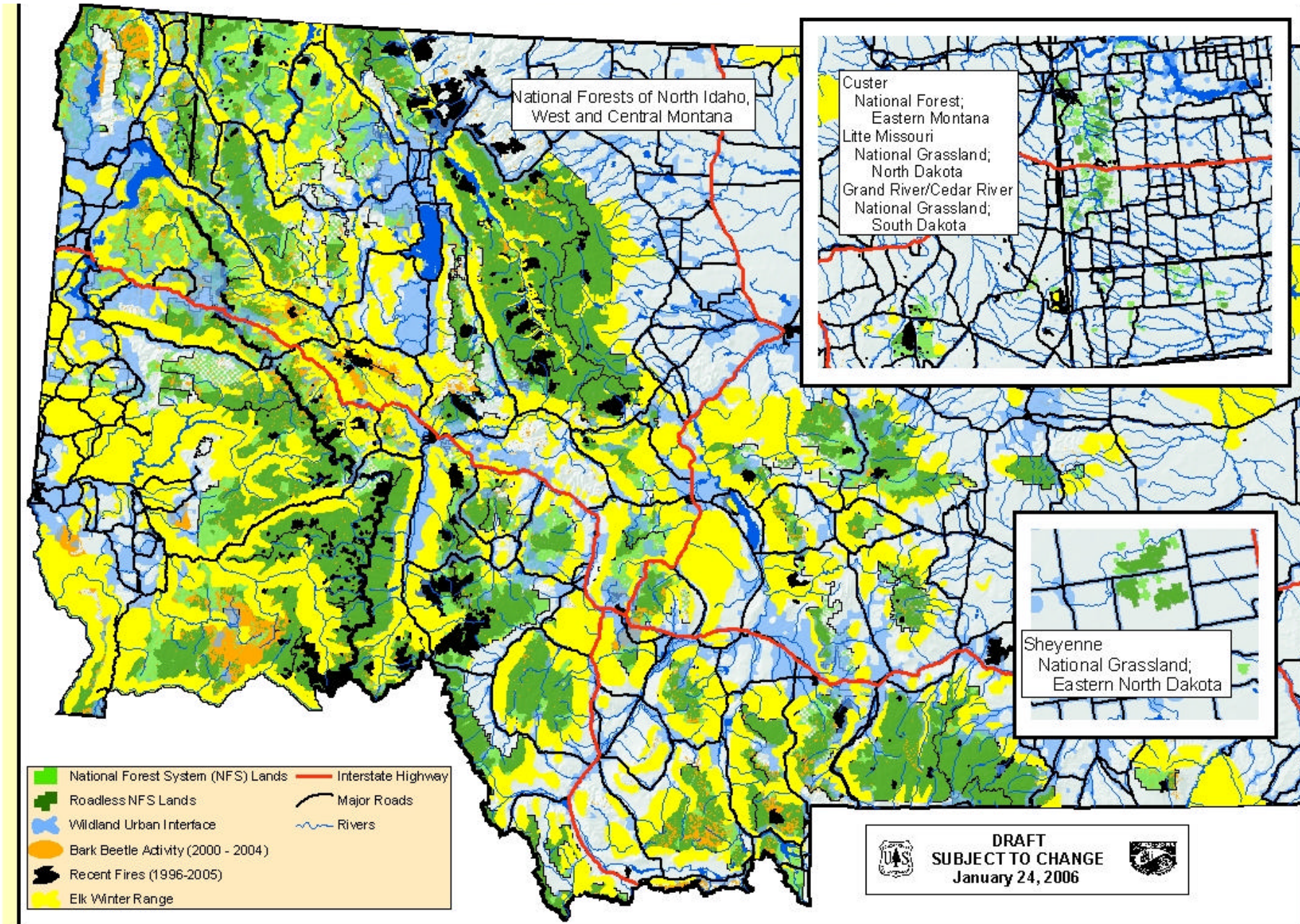


# Community Threat Zones



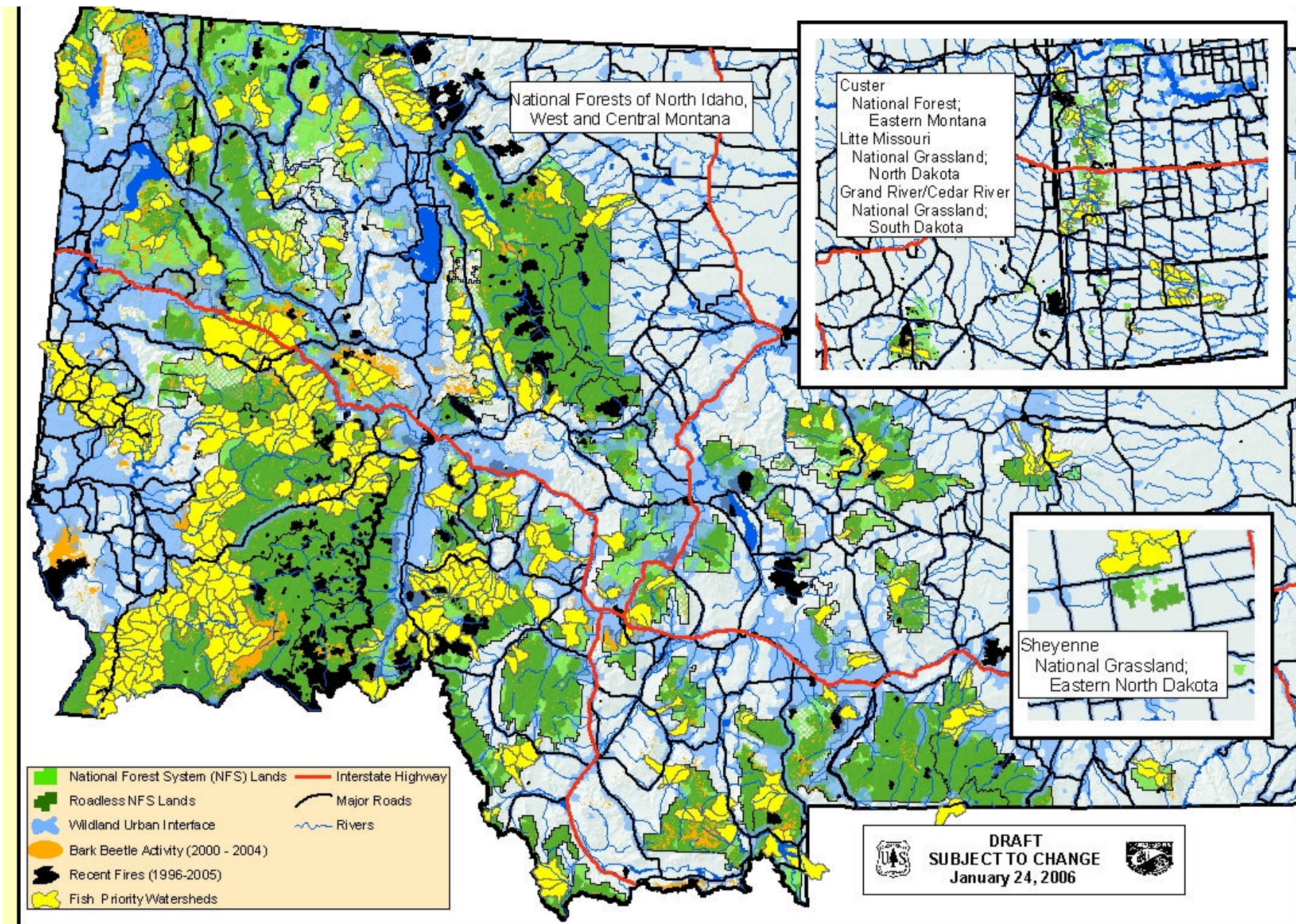


# Elk Winter Range



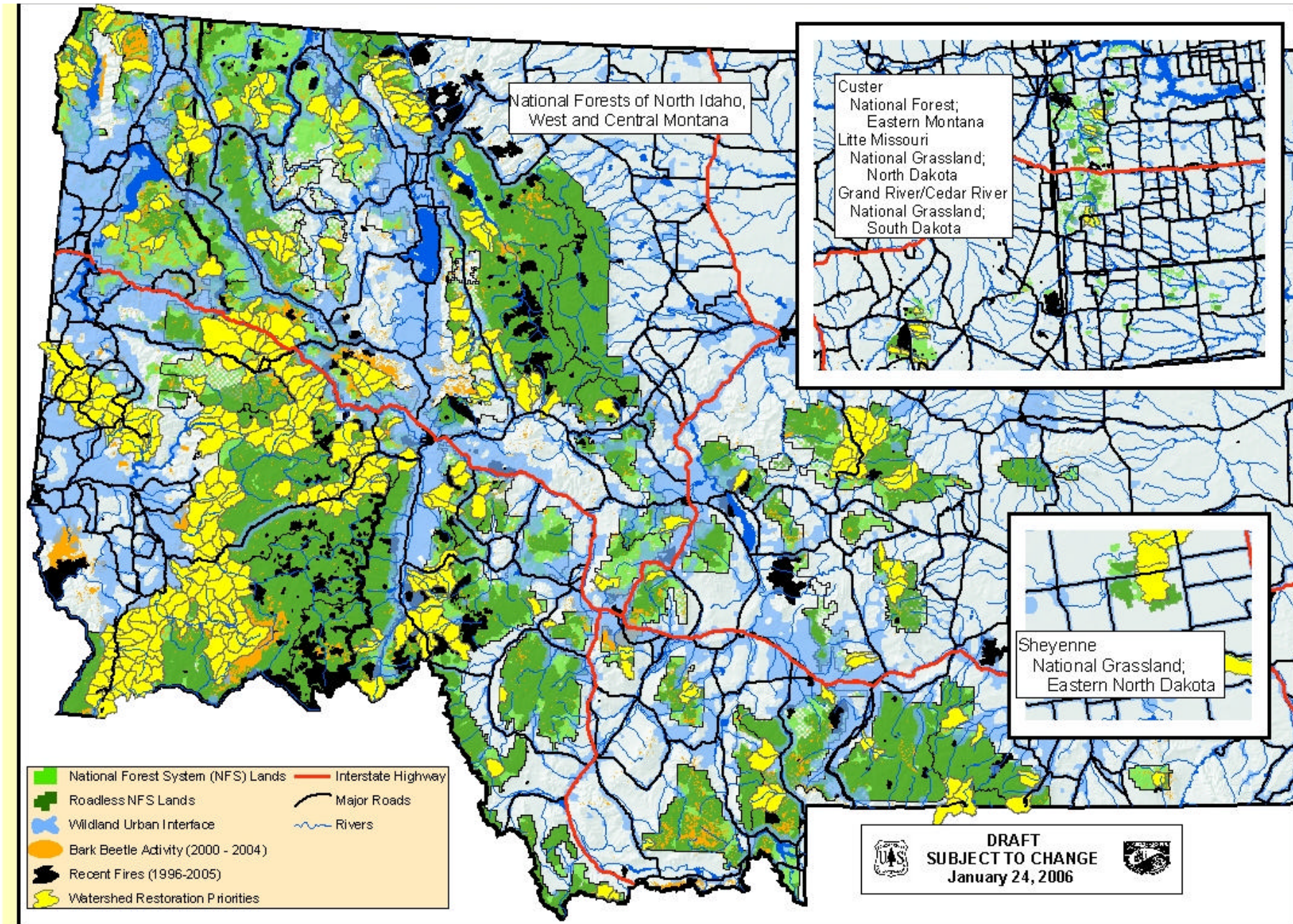


# Priority Watersheds - Fish



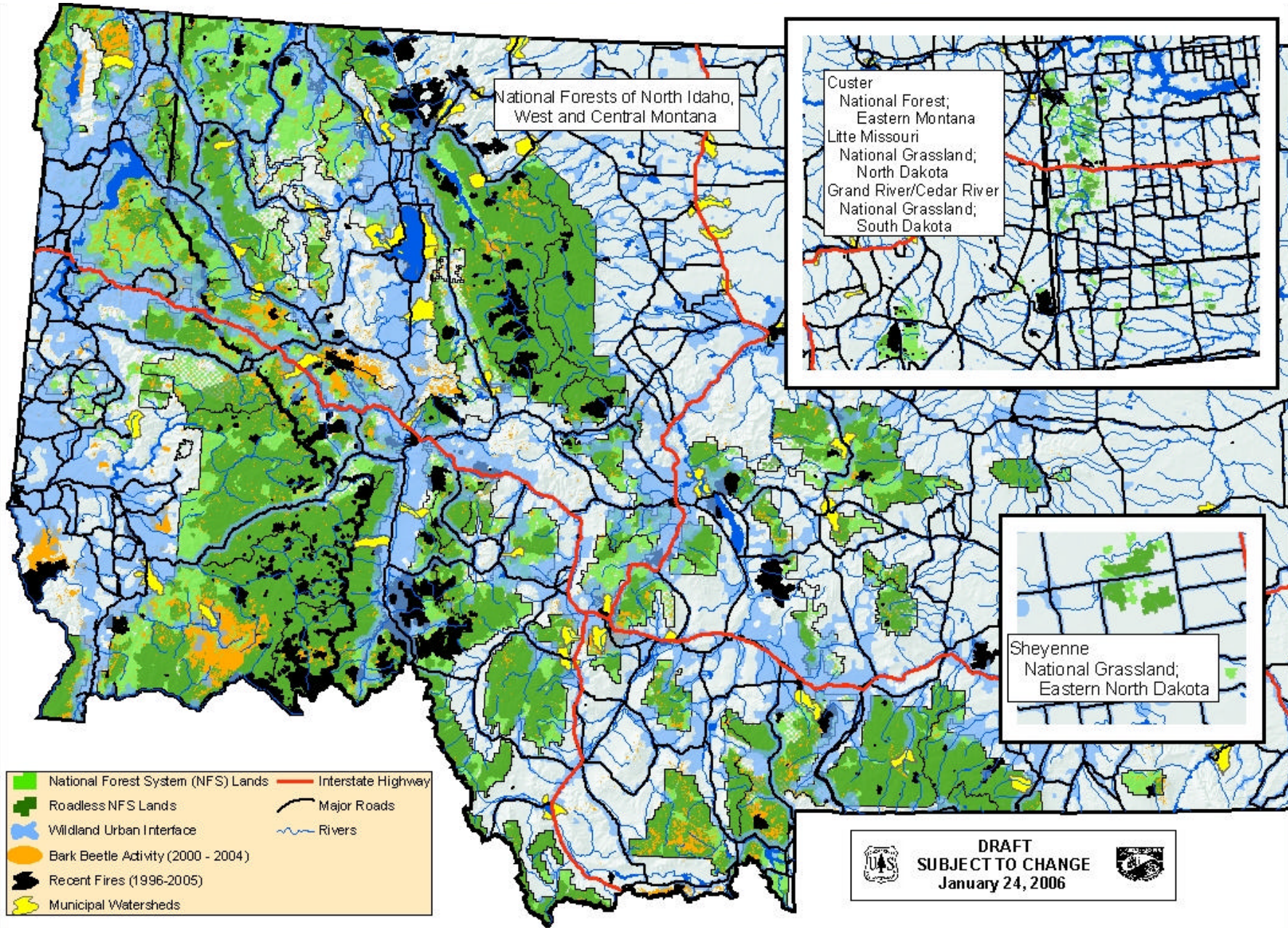


# Priority Watersheds – Water





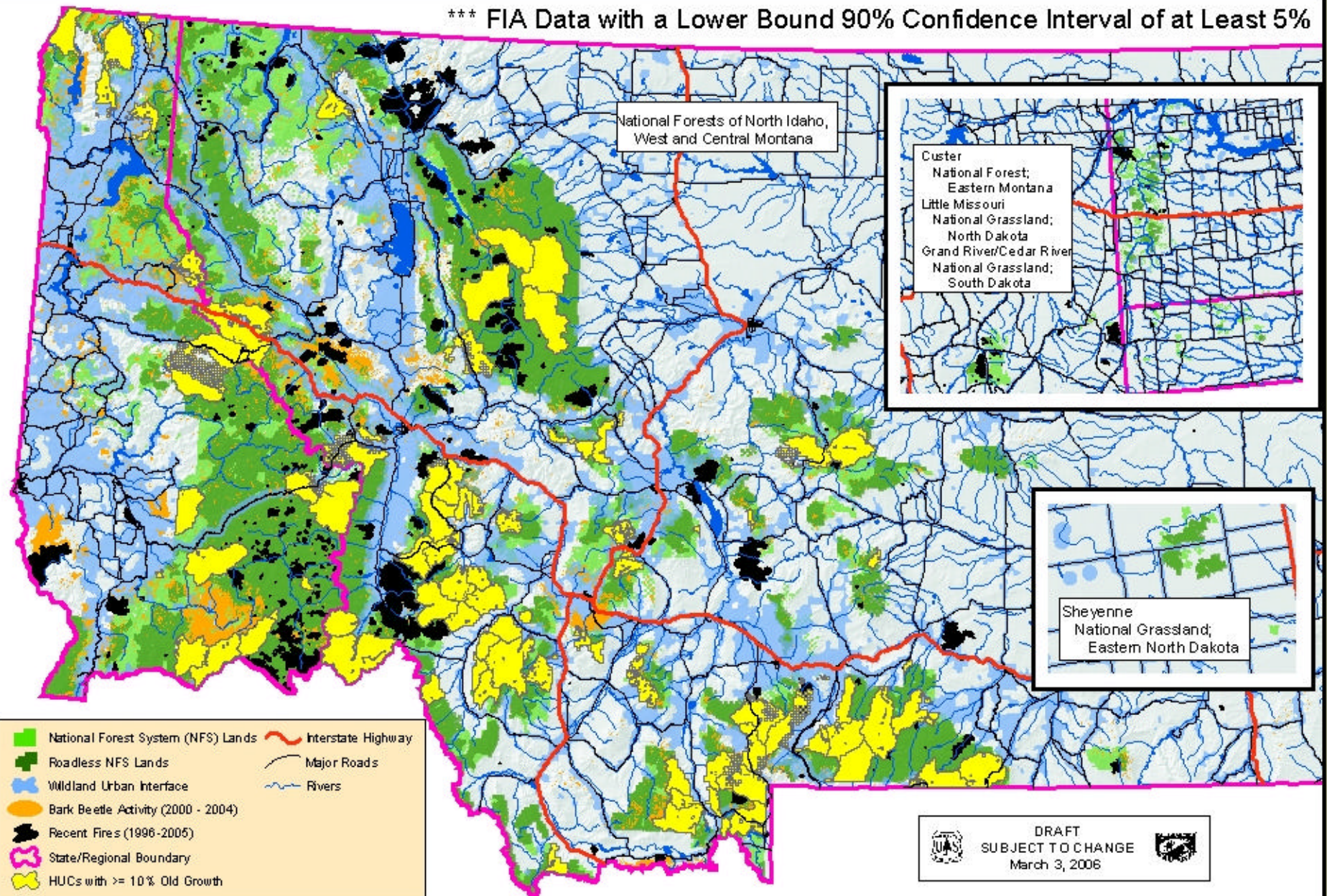
# Municipal Watersheds





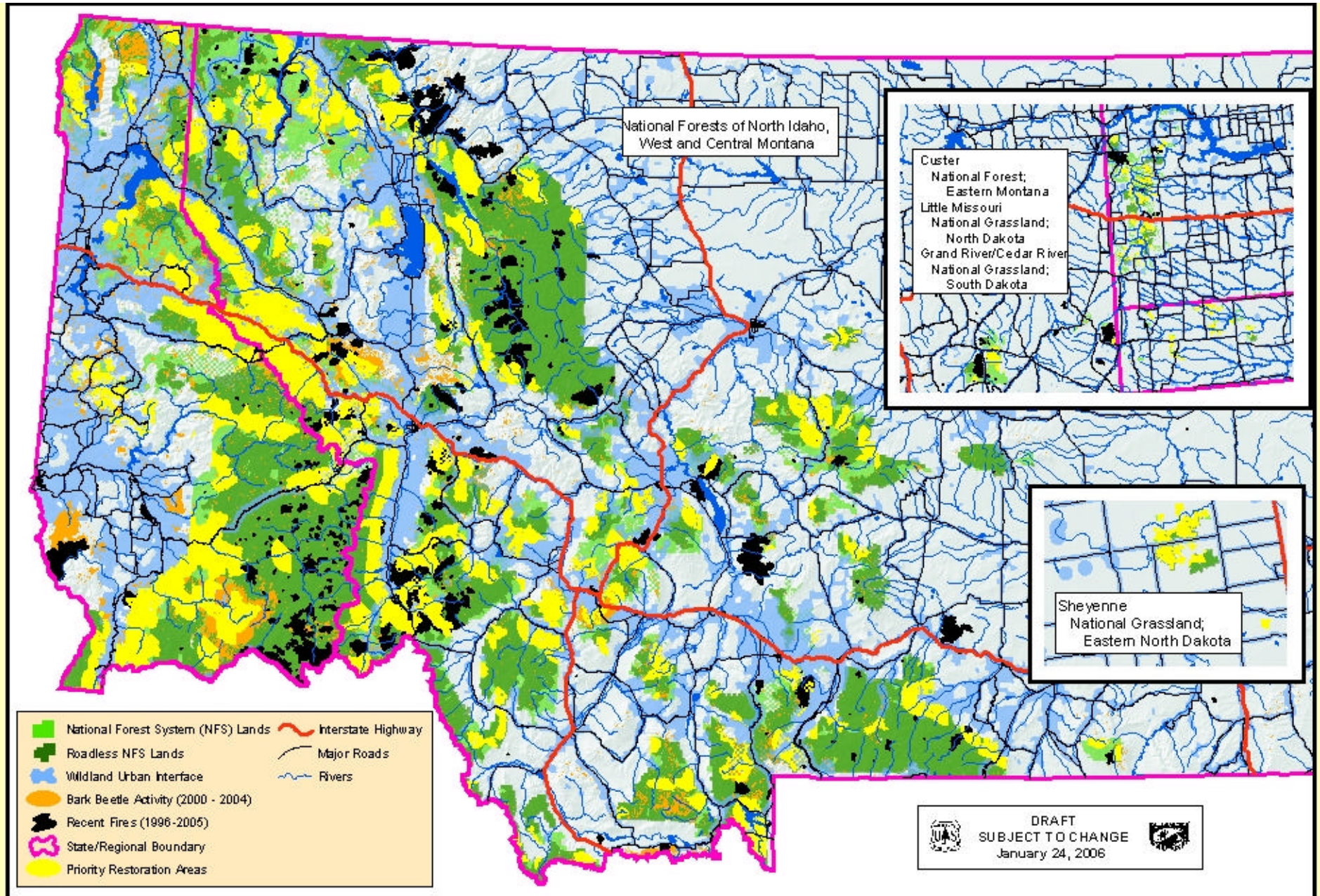
# Old Growth

\*\*\* FIA Data with a Lower Bound 90% Confidence Interval of at Least 5%





# Priority Areas







# Building a Restoration Strategy

- ◆ Contribution to local economic diversity and stability
- ◆ Track jobs and income that result from restoration
- ◆ Forest Service is adding multi-sector jobs/income analysis for all restoration projects

# SUCCESS

- ◆ Clean water
  - ◆ Healthy fish & wildlife populations
  - ◆ Effective use of biomass
  - ◆ Implemented Community Wildfire Protection Plans
  - ◆ Local Economic Diversity and Employment
- 
- A stylized, dark teal silhouette of a mountain range is positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, partially overlapping the teal background.

# Recommendations

- ◆ Agreement on what restoration means
  - ◆ Citizen teams to monitor implementation and effectiveness of restoration activities
  - ◆ Better quantification of jobs that result from restoration activity and resulting improved land condition
- 
- A stylized, layered mountain range graphic in shades of teal and blue, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# ***The End***

